FY 2016 Chief Of Naval Operations (CNO)

### **Environmental Awards**

Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation
Award Achievement Period 1 October 2014 – 30 September 2016

# NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA "The Cradle of Naval Aviation"



#### **QUICK FACTS SUMMARY:**

**Logo:** The **Gosling** was adopted as the flight student's logo in 1936 after observing area ducks landing without minding their form, or how big a splash they made. It was later adopted by the installation.

*Mission:* "Cradle of Naval Aviation" – training military teams for combat.

Home to the Blue Angels: U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team.

Size: 8,423 acres.

**Elevation:** Sea Level to 55 feet.

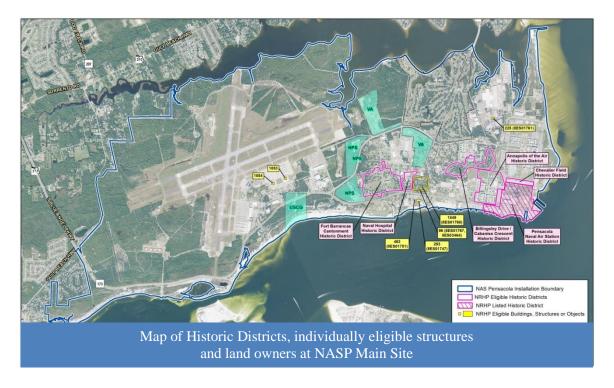
Visitation: Over One Million Annual Visitors.

**Public Access Areas**: National Naval Aviation Museum, Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum, National Park Service Fort Barrancas and Advanced Redoubt historical sites, Barrancas National Cemetery, and A.C. Read Golf Course.

*Cultural Resources:* 85 Archaeological Sites, 180 out of 687 facilities are National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible or listed structures, and 8 Historic Districts (HD): Annapolis of the Air HD, Billingsley Drive/Cabaniss Crescent HD, Chevalier Field Hangars HD, Corry Station HD, Fort Barrancas Cantonment HD, Naval Hospital HD, Pensacola Naval Air Station HD, *National Historic Landmark District (NHLD)*, and Saufley Field HD.

**Partnering:** University of West Florida (UWF), Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN), Pensacola Lighthouse Association (PLA), National Park Service (NPS), and the National Naval Aviation Museum

Due in large part to the well-managed cultural resources on the installation, NAS Pensacola received the 2015 Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Installation Excellence Award and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence.

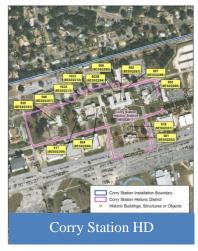


#### **INTRODUCTION**

#### Installation Mission

The Command Mission of NASP is to efficiently deliver the very best Readiness From The Shore by fully supporting the operational and training missions of assigned tenants, enhancing the readiness of

the U.S. Navy, its sister armed services and other customers. The initial training of all Naval Aviators begins here: *The Cradle of Naval Aviation*. Training commands at NASP create and provide innovative education and training products and services that contribute to the development of the professional warrior. NASP has a myriad of tenant activities, including the headquarters and staff of the Naval Education and Training Command; Training Air Wing Six and subordinate squadrons; U.S. Air Force 479th Flying Training Group and subordinate squadrons; Naval Aviation Schools Command; Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training; Naval Air Technical Training Center; Marine Aviation Training Support Groups-21 and 23; Navy Medicine Operations Training Center; Naval Recruiting Orientation Unit; and the world-renowned Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Squadron. At NASP Corry Station, the



Information Warfare Training Command delivers full spectrum cyber information warfare and intelligence training to achieve decision superiority, and Naval Hospital Pensacola provides high-quality, safe, cost-effective, patient-focused care and deployment support. At Saufley Field, the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center supports customers world-wide, and at Bronson Field, recreation and multi-use opportunities abound. Continuing attractions for visitors to the Southeast are the National Naval Aviation Museum, Barrancas National Cemetery, the National Park Service Fort Barrancas and Advanced Redoubt historical sites, and the Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum. NASP is one of the largest training operations in the Navy with nearly 60,000 students graduating from training programs annually. NASP trains students from every branch of military, other agencies, and foreign allies. It is one of only four installations in the continental United

States with an active runway and a deep water port. NASP employs over 23,000 personnel (>17,000 military and >5,000 civilian). The economic impact of NASP on the local economy exceeds \$1.2 billion. NASP attracts in excess of 1,000,000 visitors each year.

#### Installation Environment

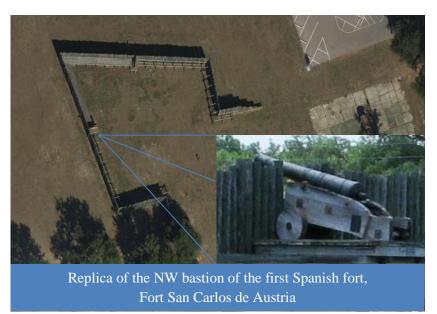
NASP is located near the City of Pensacola, on the north-central coast of the Gulf of Mexico, in Escambia County, Florida. The county is bounded by the Alabama state line to the north, the Perdido River and Alabama state line to the west, the Escambia River and Santa Rosa County to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south. NASP, located along the south-central edge of Escambia County, is bounded on the south and east by Pensacola Bay. Bayou Grande, across which a bridge spans leading to the station's main gate, forms the northern boundary. Garcon Swamp and Blue Angel Parkway, which provides



westerly access to the base, form the western boundary of the installation. Saufley Field, Bronson Field, and Corry Station are nearby and are a part of the NASP Command. Saufley Field is located about 10 miles north of NASP and about 8 miles west of Pensacola Regional Airport; Corry Station is three miles north of NASP; and Bronson Field is northwest of the main station on Perdido Bay.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Spanish originally settled a small portion of what is now NASP in 1698. The settlement included a wooden fort, support facilities and a village atop a bluff overlooking Pensacola Pass to defend the area against other European countries seeking to claim New World lands. addition to a Spanish presence, Pensacola was also occupied by British, French, and American settlers, as well as Confederate Troops during the Civil War. Following the War of 1812, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.



and Florida became a U.S. Territory in 1821. In 1825, Congress approved the establishment of a Navy Yard for the construction and repair of U.S. Navy vessels in Pensacola.

The Pensacola Navy Yard struggled with little funding, yellow fever epidemics, and destruction of most facilities as the Confederate troops fled Pensacola 1862. In the ensuing years, rebuilding the Navy Yard was hindered by the fact that an expanding iron navy was rendering the wooden ship repair facilities obsolete. The Navy Yard has been designated an NHLD that includes facilities constructed after the Civil War, with the exception of Building 16, which originally served as the Chapel and likely the reason it was spared during the war.

After a brief closure in 1911, the Pensacola Navy Yard reopened as the site of an aviation training facility with the first aviators arriving from Annapolis, Maryland in 1914. The nation's first aircraft carrier, the Langley, made her way to Pensacola in the 1920s to facilitate carrier landing and takeoff training. Also, Outlying Landing Fields (OLFs) were being constructed in the area including Saufley Field, Bronson Field, and Corry Field.

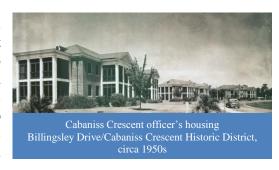
Station's infrastructure Slowly, the accommodate naval aviation with a period of modernization and expansion in the 1930s and 1940s with the Vinson-Trammel Act, Works Progress Administration (WPA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). To accommodate the growing number of pilots trained in Pensacola, Chevalier Field was established north of the old Navy Yard. The architecture associated with this building boom is predominately Georgian Revival, and NASP has six HDs dominated by this architectural type.

Built in 1854, Building 16 survived burning by confederate troops and is part of the NHLD

The most significant change to NASP in the 1950s

and 1960s was the transition from propeller-driven aircraft to jet engines. Runways had to be extended, new methods of training were introduced, and with the Korean War, the transition moved at a much faster rate than planned. By 1953, Forest Sherman Field (FSF) replaced the older World War II airfields. The Blue Angels flight demonstration team relocated to FSF from Corpus Christi in 1954, and by 1957

the Navy concentrated all of its medical training at NASP. Space exploration projects also graced NASP, which included astronauts trained in water survival skills that were attached to the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions in the 1960s. Building 1811, the original "spin and puke" training facility is individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Building 1811 is also where Miss Baker was trained for space travel, one of the first two monkeys sent into space by the U.S. and recovered alive.



NASP continued to expand in the 1970s with new classrooms, expanded repair hangar, housing water and wastewater facilities and a Public Works Center. Not only was the number of trained aviators increasing, but women were trained for the first time at NASP in 1973, as well as an increasing number of foreign military pilots from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In 2010, NASP became the first installation in the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast

area of responsibility (NAVFAC SE AOR) to employ a full-time Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist to manage their cultural resources. The Cultural Resources Manager (CRM) is the only fully dedicated person in the cultural resources program at NASP. The CRM holds a BA in Anthropology and MA in History/Historical Archaeology with over 20 years' experience in archaeology, and has developed the knowledge and skills to manage historic facilities through Navy and DoD training with DoD Historic Preservation Conferences, Advanced Historic Preservation courses and a Cast Iron Symposium.

Miss Baker space pioneer

Miss Baker, space pioneer *Jupiter* rocket, 28 May 1959

NASP implemented its first official Integrated Cultural

Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) with steadfast support from the NASP Commanding Officer, the Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (FL SHPO), and federally recognized tribes. The CRM is currently working on a Programmatic Agreement to streamline the Section 106 process, and facilitate compliance more efficiently.

The NASP CRM has developed excellent working relationships with the FL SHPO, 18 federally recognized American Indian tribes, the National Park Service (NPS), the Pensacola Lighthouse Association (PLA), Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN), and the University of West Florida. The NPS and PLA are located on base, managing Fort Barrancas and Advanced Redoubt, and the Pensacola Lighthouse and Museum, respectively. Although, the NPS and PLA conduct their own compliance requirements, we work together effectively for mutually beneficial cultural resources management.

#### SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Consultation

As is evident by its lengthy military heritage, NASP has a weighty responsibility to ensure the preservation of its history with consideration for numerous historic facilities, usually situated atop the archaeological remains of early occupation and mission support. This makes interdisciplinary discussion and decision making in the Public Works Department (PWD) essential. With more than 25% of the buildings managed by PWD determined eligible for or listed in the NRHP, planning for consultation is constant. The CRM is part of the Environmental department that works closely together to make sure environmental and cultural concerns are considered as part of the more than \$80 million spent annually for mission support by the PWD.

The Facilities Management Department planners, facilities management specialists, public works shops, construction managers, engineers, and contract specialist are eager to initiate discussion early in the process, for efficient and effective projects. The cost savings associated with early planning to ensure successful, timely projects is immense. The CRM works on hundreds of cultural resources considerations a year, from large scale design and construction projects to small renovations, minor repairs or replacement in-kind, mortar matching for repairing expired penetrations, window repairs, and utility locations on or near buildings, to name a few. The NASP excavation permit process is overseen by the CRM, including revising the excavation permit instruction (NASPCOLAINST 11010.3A), which was updated and signed by the NASP Commanding Officer (CO) in July 2015. All excavation permits are reviewed by the CRM and seven other subject matter experts (SME), which averages 475 permits a vear.

#### Port Security Barrier

NASP determined the installation of a floating port security barrier (PSB) pier side at NASP Charlie Pier, within the designated turning basin, was needed to protect naval assets against watercraft capable of delivering devastating improvised explosive devices. The PSB is an interconnected floating fence-like barrier affixed on top of small pontoons or barrels moored in place by a system of underwater dead-weight anchors. A sunken caisson, dating ca. 1830 and known as Brodie's Wharf, was located during dredging operations in November 1990. The Navy consulted with FL SHPO and



turning basin where the PSB was installed

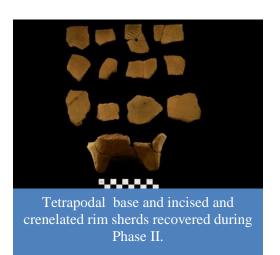
contracted Phase I and II operations at the site, as well as monitored the removal of the upper five feet of the structure to attain the required depth for deeper-draft vessels. The lower four feet are still embedded in the bay sediments; therefore, the PSB anchors are not positioned in the area of the remaining embedded caisson. NASP was able to meet NEPA requirements and deploy the PSB ahead of schedule.

#### Solar Array

Per energy goals established by the White House and the Department of Defense regarding Executive Order (EO) 13514, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct) (42 U.S.C. 15852), and Title 10 u.s.c. § 29ll(e), the Navy decided to establish a renewable energy facility at Saufley Field. The airfield at Saufley comprises approximately 450 acres of operational area consisting of the airfield with two runways, associated taxiways, and grassy medians, as well as support facilities located along the southern boundary of the airfield, which includes Saufley Field HD. NASP consulted with the FL SHPO on the potential effects of the solar array on the HD and possible archaeological remains. NEPA was expedited and the construction of the solar array is currently underway. The CRM was recognized by Rear Admiral Louis V. Cariello, Commander, NAVFAC Atlantic, for successfully negotiating cultural and historic preservation issues with the State of Florida during the planning and development of the Photovoltaic Solar Array project at Saufley Field resulting in on-time completion of the Environmental Assessment and approval of the Finding of No Significant Impact signed by Commander, Navy Region Southeast.

#### Section 110

NAVFAC SE contracted their environmental IDIQ contractor to conduct Phase I and II archaeological investigations, as well as a historic resources survey of the built environment in compliance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. The archaeological investigations included the Phase I survey of nearly 300 acres on main site, focusing on areas identified through planning for future use. The Phase II test and evaluation was conducted on a site identified through informant interviews where surface artifacts were reported. Seventy-five buildings were surveyed on main site, Corry and Saufley to determine significance of historic properties in accordance with the NRHP. As a result of these Section 110



efforts, two archaeological sites were recommended for further testing as a result of the survey, Phase II investigations determined the site ineligible, and all but six of the 75 buildings were determined ineligible for the NRHP. Prior to determining areas and buildings for these surveys, the CRM reached out to the PWD planners to include locations for development and buildings slated for renovation or demolition. This provides cost savings for future projects, as the requirement for Section 106 consultation has been met and will not delay mission critical actions.

#### Display Case

In 2015, a cache of historic survey equipment was located in a storage room of the engineering contractor's office and turned over to the CRM. Most of the equipment still has the Navy serial numbers from original production, and is in excellent condition. Fortunately, a display case was later given to PWD when a tenant vacated a facility. The CRM inventoried the survey equipment and filled the display case with a sample of the survey equipment and engineering journals



Display Case at the front entrance of the Public Works Department

to celebrate the early tools used for engineering and survey, as well as a few historic artifacts.

#### Mortar Bombs

In 2012, Tropical Storm Isaac uncovered nine, 88 pound Pre-Civil War mortar bombs along NASP's shoreline of Pensacola Bay. The mortars were examined by Navy Explosive Ordinance Division (EOD) and determined inert. The CRM contacted the University of West Florida (UWF) Division of Anthropology and Archaeology Chair, Dr. John Bratten, to discuss conservation efforts for the mortars. UWF agreed to conserve the mortar rounds, which would give their students hands-on experience, and

in exchange, NASP would loan them one of the mortars for display and education. The CRM worked with PWD to construct wooden stands with plaques for displaying the mortar bombs, one of which is on display in the NASP CO's office. NASP saved thousands of dollars as a result of this partnership with UWF.

## ARPA signs and Unauthorized Removal and Reporting of Historical Artifacts

The CRM worked with the PWD Shops department to construct signs advising visitors and residents to respect and protect archaeological resources on base pursuant to the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), and the use of metal detectors aboard NASP is prohibited. The



signs were placed in areas frequented by residents and visitors in an effort to bring awareness and promote stewardship of NASP's cultural resources. In May 2016, the NASP CO signed an updated instruction revised by the CRM, designating authority and responsibility in the prevention of unauthorized excavation and/or removal of historic artifacts from NASP (NASPCOLAINST 5500.19E).

#### Monthly Environmental Meetings and Building Manager Meetings

The Environmental Department hosts a monthly environmental meeting to keep NASP military and civilian personnel informed and proactive. The CRM regularly presents during these meetings to promote awareness and stewardship of cultural resources, as well as compliance requirements. The CRM also presents at the quarterly Building Managers meetings, which provides an opportunity to educate newly designated building managers and field questions regarding the proper management of historic facilities.

#### Provides CO, PWO, and Dignitaries Cultural Resources Orientation

It is critical that the incoming PWO and CO are actively engaged in NASP's Cultural Resources management program so they are able to plan for and implement mission critical projects efficiently and effectively. Further, it allows them an understanding of the magnitude of



stewardship responsibilities that is incumbent upon them. The CRM provides background and site visits to orient the PWO and CO with NASP's rich history and cultural resources management responsibilities, so they can involve and educate the tenant commands in the planning process for projects.

NASP is frequently visited by Command Navy Region Southeast leaders and other government liaisons, such as the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Director of Policy and Stakeholder Coordination. The CRM informs these officers and leaders of cultural resources management priorities and potential constraints for future development and mission readiness.

The CRM has also assisted with SME presentations in courses provided by the Civil Engineer Corps Officers School, as well as historic tours to highlight cultural resources management objectives at NASP.